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General Assembly
Sixty-sixth session

Official Records

37th plenary meeting
Friday, 21 October 2011, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Al-Nasser ..... (Qatar)

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 113

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs

(a) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): The General Assembly will now proceed to the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 2011.

The five outgoing non-permanent members are the following: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Gabon, Lebanon and Nigeria. Those five States cannot be re-elected. Their names, therefore, should not appear on the ballot papers.

Apart from the five permanent members, the Security Council will include in the year 2012 the following States: Colombia, Germany, India, Portugal and South Africa. The names of those States, therefore, should also not appear on the ballot papers.

Of the five non-permanent members that will remain in office in the year 2012, two are from Africa and Asia-Pacific, one is from Latin America and the Caribbean and two are from Western Europe and other States. Consequently, pursuant to paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 1991 A (XVIII), of 17 December 1963, the five non-permanent members should be elected according to the following pattern: three from Africa and Asia-Pacific, one from Eastern Europe and one from Latin America and the Caribbean. The ballot papers reflect that pattern.

In accordance with established practice, there is an understanding to the effect that, of the three States to be elected from Africa and Asia-Pacific, two should be from Africa and one from Asia-Pacific.

I should like to inform the Assembly that those candidates — their number not exceeding the number of seats to be filled — receiving the greatest number of votes and a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, will be declared elected. If the number of candidates receiving a two-thirds majority is less than the number of members to be elected, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining seats, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled.

Also, consistent with past practice, in case a tie vote should make it necessary to determine the candidate to be elected or that will proceed to the next round of restricted balloting, there will be a special restricted ballot limited to those candidates that have obtained an equal number of votes.

May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to that procedure?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations.

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Regarding candidatures, I have been informed by the Chairpersons of the respective regional groups of the following. For the three vacant seats from among the African and Asian-Pacific States, five candidates have been designated, namely, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Morocco, Pakistan and Togo. For the one vacant seat from among the Eastern European States, there are three candidates, namely, Azerbaijan, Hungary and Slovenia. For the one vacant seat from among the Latin American and Caribbean States, there is one endorsed candidate, namely, Guatemala.

In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, we shall now proceed to the election by secret ballot.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

We shall now begin the voting process. Members are requested to remain seated until all ballots have been collected. Ballot papers marked "A", "B" and "C" will now be distributed. I request representatives to use only those ballot papers that have been distributed.

May I ask representatives to write clearly on the ballot papers marked "A", for the African and Asian-Pacific States, the names of the three States for which they wish to vote; on the ballot papers marked "B", for the Eastern European States, the name of the one State for which they wish to vote; and on the ballot papers marked "C", for the Latin American and Caribbean States, the name of the one State for which they wish to vote.

A ballot will be declared invalid if it contains more names of Member States from the relevant region than the number of seats assigned to it. A ballot will also be declared invalid if all the names of the Member States on that ballot do not belong to the relevant region. If a ballot paper contains names of Member States that do not belong to that region, the ballot remains valid, but only the names of the Member States that belong to the relevant region will be counted. The names of Member States that do not belong to that region will not be counted at all.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Baptista (Angola), Mr. Tegos (Greece), Mrs. Dockendorf (Luxembourg), Mr. Bonifaz (Peru), Ms. Popovici (Republic of Moldova) and Ms. Wairatpanij (Thailand) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 10.30 a.m. and resumed at 11.45 a.m.

The President: The result of the voting is as follows:

Group A — African and Asian-Pacific States

Number of ballot papers:	193
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	193
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	193
Required two-thirds majority:	129
Number of votes obtained:	
Morocco	151
Pakistan	129
Togo	119
Mauritania	98
Kyrgyzstan	55
Fiji	1

Group B — Eastern European States

Number of ballot papers:	193
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	193
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	193
Required two-thirds majority:	129
Number of votes obtained:	
Azerbaijan	74
Slovenia	67
Hungary	52

Group C — Latin America and the Caribbean States

Number of ballot papers:	193
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	193
Abstentions:	2
Number of members voting:	191
Required two-thirds majority:	128
Number of votes obtained:	
Guatemala	191

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, the following States were elected members of the Security Council for a two-year term beginning 1 January 2012: Guatemala, Morocco and Pakistan.

The President: There remain two seats to be filled, one from among the Group of African and Asian-Pacific States and one from among the Group of Eastern European States. We shall therefore proceed to the first restricted ballot.

In accordance with established practice, there is an understanding to the effect that, of the three seats allocated to the Group of African and Asian-Pacific States, two should be filled by African States and one by an Asian-Pacific State. As Morocco and Pakistan have already been elected, the remaining seat for the Group of African and Asian-Pacific States should be filled by an African State.

The second round of balloting shall be restricted to the two States from among the African and Asian-Pacific States that were not elected but that obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, namely, Togo and Mauritania; and to the two States from among the Eastern European States that were not elected but that obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, namely, Azerbaijan and Slovenia. That is in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

We shall now begin the voting process.

Ballot papers marked "A" and "B" will now be distributed. May I ask representatives to write on the ballot papers the names of the States for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers marked "A" for African and Asian-Pacific States will be declared invalid if they contain the name of a State other than Mauritania or Togo, as well as if they contain the names of more than one State. Ballot papers marked "B" for Eastern European States will be declared invalid if they contain the name of a State other than Azerbaijan or Slovenia, as well as if they contain the names of more than one State.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Baptista (Angola), Mr. Tegos (Greece), Mrs. Dockendorf (Luxembourg), Mr. Bonifaz (Peru), Ms. Popovici (Republic of Moldova) and Ms. Wairatpanij (Thailand) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 12.05 p.m. and resumed at 12.45 p.m.

The President: The result of the voting is as follows:

Group A — African and Asian-Pacific States	
Number of ballot papers:	193
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	193
Abstentions:	2
Number of members voting:	191
Required two-thirds majority:	128
Number of votes obtained:	
Togo	119
Mauritania	72
Group B — Eastern European States	
Number of ballot papers:	193
Number of invalid ballots:	5
Number of valid ballots:	188
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	187
Required two-thirds majority:	125
Number of votes obtained:	
Slovenia	97
Azerbaijan	90

Since no candidate obtained the required two-thirds majority in the previous ballot, there remain two seats to be filled, one from among the Group of African and Asian-Pacific States and one from among the Group of Eastern European States. We shall therefore proceed to the second restricted ballot.

In accordance with established practice, there is an understanding to the effect that, of the three seats allocated to the Group of African and Asian-Pacific States, two should be filled by African States and one by an Asian-Pacific State. As Morocco and Pakistan have already been elected, the remaining seat for the Group of African and Asian-Pacific States should be filled by an African State.

The third round of balloting shall be restricted to the two States from among the African and Asian-Pacific States that were not elected but that obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, namely, Togo and Mauritania; and to the two States from among the Eastern European States that were not elected but that obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, namely, Azerbaijan and Slovenia.

That is in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

We shall now begin the voting process.

Ballot papers marked "A" and "B" will now be distributed. May I ask representatives to write on the ballot papers the names of the States for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers marked "A" for African and Asian-Pacific States will be declared invalid if they contain the name of a State other than Mauritania or Togo, as well as if they contain the names of more than one State. Ballot papers marked "B" for Eastern European States will be declared invalid if they contain the name of a State other than Azerbaijan or Slovenia, as well as if they contain the names of more than one State.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Baptista (Angola), Mr. Tegos (Greece), Mrs. Dockendorf (Luxembourg), Mr. Bonifaz (Peru), Ms. Popovici (Republic of Moldova) and Ms. Wairatpanij (Thailand) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 12.55 p.m. and resumed at 1.25 p.m.

The President: The result of the voting is as follows:

Group A — African and Asian-Pacific States

Number of ballot papers:	193
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	193
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	192
Required two-thirds majority:	128
Number of votes obtained:	
Togo	131
Mauritania	61

Group B — Eastern European States

Number of ballot papers:	193
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	193
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	192
Required two-thirds majority:	128
Number of votes obtained:	
Slovenia	99
Azerbaijan	93

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Togo was elected a member of the Security Council for a two-year term beginning 1 January 2012.

The President: There remains one seat to be filled from among the Eastern European States. In accordance with the rules of procedure, we should continue with the series of restricted ballots. However, in view of the late hour, I propose that we postpone further balloting until 3.30 p.m.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 1.30 p.m.